

Virginia M. Barry, Ph.D. Commissioner of Education Tel. 603-271-3144

## **Paul Leather**Deputy Commissioner of Education Tel. 603-271-3801

## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION 101 Pleasant Street Concord, N.H. 03301 FAX 603-271-1953 Citizens Services Line 1-800-339-9900

Bureau of Special Education FY'16 Memo #5

Date: September 8, 2015

To: Superintendents of Schools

Directors of Special Education

From: Office of the Commissioner of Education

Division of Educational Improvement

Bureau of Special Education

RE: FY'16 Catastrophic Aid (Cat Aid) Estimated Report

Annually, the Department of Revenue Administration requests an early estimate of Cat Aid reimbursement for districts to support the tax rate setting process. Attached is an estimate of the Cat Aid costs submitted by the districts as of September 1st. The Bureau of Special Education is still in the process of reviewing the submitted invoices to confirm that costs are allowable.

The current appropriation for Catastrophic Aid is \$22,537,308.00. Whereas the State of New Hampshire is in continuing resolution, therefore, the lack of an approved budget may impact this amount. Student costs processed to date total \$30,979,854.51. While the current figures suggest a proration at 72.7482%, there may be rare incidents that a district did not submit all expenditures by the August 1st deadline. Therefore because of these incidents, final proration may be at a lower percentage. Further reductions on an individual district basis are also possible due to invalid costs. If you have requested reimbursement for an unapproved special education program, the expenditures for that program will be disapproved. The estimated reimbursement totals may vary based on the Bureau of Special Education review.

When it is time to set the tax rates for your towns, you may be able to provide the Department of Revenue Administration with an estimate that is more accurate than the one attached. You may be aware of recently approved or disapproved expenditures that will change your town's reimbursement. Municipal Services is aware of the nature of the attached estimates and will accept reasonable adjustments.

**BSE:LMM** 

cc:

Stephan Hamilton, Municipal Services, DRA